

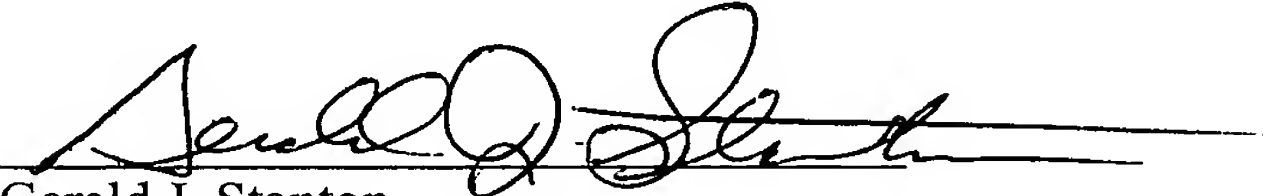
- Appl. No. 10/626,760  
Amdt. Dated October 8, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of October 1, 2004

**Remarks/Arguments:**

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application, claims 19-35 having been cancelled in response to a previous restriction requirement. In the referenced Office Action, the Examiner has asserted two distinct species of the claimed invention: Group I that includes claims 1-8, and Group II that includes claims 9-18.

Applicant elects Group I, claims 1-8, without traverse, and without prejudice or disclaimer. The non-elected claims are withdrawn in the attached listing of claims, but not cancelled. Examination of the elected claims on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted:

  
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October 8, 2004  
Date

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

October 8, 2004  
Date

  
Ann Okrentowich